

The Messenger.

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TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 1897.

ALREADY WEIGHED.

Already the people are awaking from the political sleep of 1896, and are rapidly becoming "mighty tired" of the McKinley gang of incompetents, marplots and oppressors. Look at the elections held this year in many states—democratic gains nearly everywhere. Chicago, the goldbug centre in the west, gone democratic in a mighty whoop. The hand-writing has already appeared upon the walls of the republican Belshazzar's palace, and it reads very like that of old—Weighed in the balances and found wanting. McKinley had a glorious chance to do good and magnify his great office, but he is too weak, too much of a man of one idea, too submissive to wealth, too much in the grip of millionaire Hanna to do right, to help restore confidence to a long suffering and much disturbed country. What ever his private virtues, however pleasant and attractive his home life, he is the dearest of political failures and time will give opportunity for his political funeral without honors. The president who has had such an experience as McKinley has had, and in the face of a wide-spread revolt against an infamous robber system of taxation for the benefit of a very rich class, a giant monopoly, shows not only the worst of judgment, but the very worst of principle. He lends himself willingly to further the aims and ends of the great rapacious, devouring gang of manufacturing nabobs. Hanna says he is fully satisfied with the Dingley bill.

Hanna is one of the rich manufacturers who have got rich by robbing the people. He was also one of the first of the monopolists lords to cut the wages of his faithful workmen. He likes the new, very high robber tax, which leads all other robberies by as great a speed as the forty mile speed of a railway train of our day does the lumbering stage-coach of 1840. Yes, Hanna is satisfied. He may well be, for he and his followers of the Dick Turpin gang can now get their fingers deeper than ever in the pockets of all sorts and conditions of people. Hanna is satisfied at the encouraging showing for more robbery and great profits, and the manikin in the White House submissive to the leading strings of the big Boss will echo the sentiment—"I am satisfied with the very high protection tax." This is indeed under radical rule a government of the monopolists and by the monopolists and for the monopolists. It is all for money without a particle of fairness, equality and honesty in the whole thing.

SNUBBING CONFEDERATE VETERANS.

The ceremonies and demonstrations at the completion of the monument near New York city in the memory of General U. S. Grant are attracting discussion in advance. There is some fear, perhaps well founded, that the southern men in the great city, and out of it, who were the gray, are to be snubbed or treated in an unseemly way. Last year when the confederates were subjected to a positive slight in the matter of a parade, The Messenger said it hoped that mainly self-respect would keep them hereafter from being treated cavalierly or humiliatingly, and the best way was to keep out of the procession. It looks now that the Confederate Veterans will not have a fair showing in the approaching demonstrations in honor of the north's greatest soldier, for such, we take it, is the estimate in the north of General Grant. This is 1897—thirty-two years after the war and with thirty-two years of peace. General John B. Gordon, of Georgia, is the head of the United Confederate Veterans. He has not been invited to be present or to participate, and such is reported to be the case with other southern leaders in the great war. This treatment will not make New York city less unpopular nor draw the south more towards the north. We would like to see a different conduct prevailing. General Grant had more magnanimity than most of the federal generals. He had a greater desire for peace and reconciliation of the sections than any real leader in the north. In Lincoln the south had its true friend, himself of southern birth, than in any man in the triumphant north. Perhaps Grant stood nearest to Lincoln in this respect. General Grant behaved well at Appomattox and showed his manhood and regard for a soldier's pledge, when he unbuttoned his sword at a cabinet meeting and laid it upon the table, saying that if the terms he had made with General Lee were disregarded, he would resign from the army and appeal to the American people. This was soon after the war, and years before he became president.

The Messenger, in memory of these things so creditable to General Grant every way, would like to see confederates join in paying honors to the memory of the victorious chieftain, the most conspicuous of northern born soldiers. But this ought to be done without any surrender of self-respect, without submitting to contumely or reproach or deliberate slight. The Richmond Dispatch has this in the way of rumor or information:

"The extension of an invitation to General Gordon and others will not do away with the fact that up to this time the New York committee has not approached the commander of the United Confederate Veterans with a view to having in the parade a thoroughly representative body of ex-confederates and sons of ex-confederates. We have no 'inside' information upon the subject—all that we know comes from the newspapers—but if General Gordon has ever been asked to take charge of the arrangements for mustering our veterans on the occasion in question, we have not heard of it."

The rapidity with which croup develops calls for instant treatment; and yet few households are prepared for its visits. An admirable remedy for this disease is Ayer's Cherry Eucalypt. It has saved hundreds of lives and should be in every home where there are young children.

WOMAN WORKERS.

It is interesting and instructive to study the figures showing the great progress made in this country by the women in getting into places once occupied mainly by the men. Whether the "new woman" has come or no, it is certain a great and startling change has come. The women now are in every thing, except in the cabinet and the congress. In a few years we may expect Mrs. President to be in Washington with her cabinet of women around her. The senate and house will be crowded with them, but petticoats will go out and the members will all wear trousers perhaps. It is hardly in order to prophesy that a woman will be at the head of the army, but some may be in command of naval ships, for some women have the grip and courage of a real man.

The women are at the front now. They go to the same schools of all sorts, and are in the colleges and universities and can get ahead of the boys and carry off the honors. The high courtesies, the noble chivalry, the lofty bearing of men in the presence of women will probably disappear in the general scramble, rivalry and contention. Home life may be made another life and Johnny may cook the meals and rock the cradle while his wife practices medicine, or goes into court to manage a case, or is in the legislature, or in congress or commanding a steamship. The old order is passing away.

The trades and professions are now open to all alike. It is stated that at present there are 4,000,000 of women in the United States in the various occupations described as gainful. This is more than double what it was in 1870. Before the war the women in the south were taken care of and there was no occasion for the scramble and the toil and sacrifices now forced upon them. The necessities following the war and growing more exacting with the years, have been the incentives, compelling labor and self-abnegation of which the women of the better classes in the south had no personal experience. We think it a great hardship and misfortune that the calamities have forced this change in the south. While there is no degradation in labor there are often great sacrifice, much suffering and a terrible strain upon the women who are forced to get their living and even support others by unbroken toil.

School teaching was before the war and is since the chief business of women workers. Prior to 1860 the number was probably less than 20,000; now it is over 200,000. We have a table at hand giving the numbers in 1870 and 1890. The next census will show a much greater number still:

Actors	1870	1890
Architects	692	3,949
Artists and teachers of art	1	22
Authors and literary and scientific persons	412	10,815
Chemists, assayers, and metallurgists	159	2,725
Clergymen	39	39
Dentists	67	1,143
Designers, draughtsmen, and inventors	24	337
Engineers (civil, mechanical and electrical and mining)	13	305
Journalists	355	888
Lawyers	208	208
Musicians and teachers of music	5753	34,519
Officials (Government)	414	4,875
Physicians and surgeons	527	4,557
Professors and teachers	84,947	246,666
Theatrical managers, showmen, etc.	100	134
Veterinary surgeons	8	479
Other professional service ..	8	479

Totals

In this enumeration a very large class of women engaged as typewriters, bookkeepers, telegraph operators, stenographers etc., are not given. There are no reliable statistics available at present. But these will amount to hundreds of thousands. The shirt-makers, milliners, etc., make another great army of toilers. The women are

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at the front and many of them are exceedingly poorly paid for their work. What justice or fairness is there in paying a woman a less price than a man for the same work if she does it as well? There should be a change in this matter of reward for faithful service. If they are skilled and faithful and accomplished as much as the men are then they should be paid as well. The Atlanta Constitution considers this question of woman's progress at much length and concludes with cheerful recognition of what women have done and done well and most of them have done womanly:

"Altogether, the progress made by women between the years 1870 and 1890 in mechanical and industrial lines shows a net gain of nearly 800,000 occupations. So far as the government positions are concerned, there is not a single department of the service in which women are not found, except in the army and navy."

"From the figures above cited it is evident that the fair sex is yearly becoming more independent and self-sustaining. Nor can it be said that our veneration for the womanhood of the country is less than it was some fifty years ago. On the contrary, it has deepened, if such a thing is possible, with the courageous efforts which the sex has made for its advancement. While there are some faults, of course, in the record of progress which our women have made during the last half century, it is nevertheless as a whole entitled to commendation."

It may save you time and money to be informed that, when you need a blood-purifier, Ayer's Sarsaparilla is the kind most in favor with the medical profession. It is the standard and, as such, the only blood-purifier admitted at the Chicago World's Fair.

A NON-SECTIONAL HISTORY FAVORED.

In 1874-5, we began to examine northern school histories of the United States. In 1875, we began to expose their sectionalism, unfairness to the south, and absolute untruthfulness. We urged just what has been much urged twenty-one years afterwards in southern newspapers, that the south shall cease to use northern school histories, teeming with grossest lies, and use only books of southern authorship. You can find something of this in "Our Living and Our Dead" of the year named.

During the last six months many newspaper essays and editorials have appeared in southern newspapers urging the use of various southern histories of the United States prepared and published by men and women of the south. Virginia alone has contributed three works of this kind. In all there are quite a half dozen school histories. This is well. They are probably as good as the northern books, and are at least not false or unfriendly to our people. Do not teach your children lies. That may appear old fashioned, but it is true and right.

The latest movement we have noticed is not to have either northern or southern school histories, but national. Some one or more northern newspapers are favoring this. Let such books be first written and thoroughly examined before abandoning in the south its own books.

We have been for fifty years and more something of an historical student. We remember to have read Rollin's Ancient History in eight closely printed volumes when a boy of 15 or 16, and also Hume's History of England, and its continuation by Miller and Smollett, the whole in four royal octavos. And then we read Robertson's "Charles the Fifth"—a ponderous volume, and much in Plutarch's Lives and so on. From that boyish time until now we have been reading histories. We do not think we have read but one or two works that impressed us as strictly fair and judicial—in which the authors sought the truth without conscious bias, were not partisans or hero worshippers, or bigots, or something else that marred and made less trustworthy the works. Hallam and Lecky, among English authors, appear to us best balanced, more severely just.

Now where is the living writer who can produce an unbiased, fair, candid, absolutely truthful history of the United States? All students who have read Bancroft or Hillard or McMaster or Ridpath or any history of our country can not have failed to see distempered opinion or downright bias or conspicuous prejudice or unconscious leanings, it may be, in certain directions. In church and state men are not unprejudiced. The truth-seeker is a rare product of any age or country or civilization.

We would be glad to welcome the faithful, just, unbiased history. But where is the man of capacity who can hold the scales evenly? When he comes to treat of the South Carolina affair (nullification) or of the Missouri Compromise, or of the "Bleeding" Kansas outbreaks, or of the John Brown invasion, or of the great war, or of reconstruction, or of government since the war, can he lift himself above party prejudice or sectional antagonisms or race troubles, or church bigotry into the serene and pure atmosphere of eternal truth and perfect candor and unyielding sincerity and a resolute sense of right and hold the historic stylus without partiality, without fear, without yielding at any time to the distemper of the age? He will be a marvel indeed when found.

It is proposed to prepare a history by a commission of experts. Very well, but are they experts in truth-seeking, truth-telling? Are they so richly endowed as to be superior to the follies and prejudices and historic shortcomings of our age, country and the nations? We can have but little confidence in such a project, in such a product. When completed and severely tested and found to be without

streak or flaw, and it shall prove to be the ideal history, with the exact facts given, without bias or prejudice or advocacy of man or section—then by all means adopt it everywhere. Since writing the above we see this in an editorial in The Atlanta Constitution, which indicates something of the difficulties in the consummation of a work, however needed or desired. It says:

"We do not believe there is a sensible person in the country who wants his children to grow up believing that the brave men who displayed their valor and their devotion during the war were traitors on one side or tyrants on the other."

There ought to be some capable man in the country able to divorce his mind from the more ephemeral distempers that produce prejudice, and view the whole struggle, from beginning to end, from the standpoint of a patriotic American, sincerely in love with all sections of the republic and its institutions. This is easy to say, and yet we fear it will be long before the proper temperament and equipment are found joined in one individual. Ordinarily, men are insensible to their prejudices, do not know that they exist, and believe the coloring they give to facts is the natural color."

Whiskers that are prematurely gray or faded should be colored to prevent the look of age, and Buckingham's Dye excels all others in coloring brown or black.

SNAPS.

Mrs. Fitzhugh Lee liked Havana life.

Even at Bridgeport, Conn., silver men and republicans divided the offices, and the gold-bugs were not in it.

School teachers in the great New York state in the towns are not paid excessively. They receive \$2.26 per week.

Heigho! It is now charged that the Spaniards are afraid to shoot General Rivera, but will take him off with poison.

General Gomez refuses to meet the Butcher. He remembers the brave Maceo's cruel fate. He is suspicious of an infernal conspiracy.

The Protestant Archbishop of Dublin, W. C. Plunket, is dead, born in 1828, and was Lord Plunket. He succeeded Archbishop Trench in 1884.

Last year railway building amounted to 1,848 miles. In 1887, there were 12,938 miles constructed. In 1896, several states did not lay a track.

It will very much gratify the friends of Cuba all around the country to hear that General Rivera is not to be executed. That is perhaps the one sensible, humane act of the Spaniards since the war began.

It has come to pass that to secure a well-built war vessel a great prize has to be offered in addition to the regular cost. The people pay \$200,000 to the builders of the Iowa for doing good work and constructing a battleship that will actually sail well.

So Dan Lamont finds a big salary and a soft cushion as president of the Northern Pacific railroad. When did Dan study railroading? He would make a fine captain of a leviathan ocean steamer. He is universal you see. A man of all trades.

Pennsylvania will dedicate on the 15th of May a colossal monument to General George Washington. It will cost \$600,000. In A. D. 2,000 North Carolina will rear a monument to some native son some where, place not yet known. The honor is deferred for awhile.

Professor B. Lee, a son of General S. D. Lee, of Mississippi, has been called to a professorship in Harvard University, Mass., salary \$7,000 a year, but he declines, preferring to remain in Chicago, where he can prosecute his legal business, and at the same time retain his connection with the University Law School. Southern boys are making their way.



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